

Westborough Advisory Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting No. 11, FY2012
October 17, 2011

Approved
December 5, 2011

Members Present: John E. Arnold, Chair, Ed Behn, Peter Allen, Bill Linnane, Jo Lown, Jim Tepper, Kathy Rosenblum Senie, J. J. Malone, Lisa Blazejewski. Absent: None.

At 6:05 p.m. Mr. Arnold called the meeting to order in the Westborough High School Auditorium.

Call to Order/Open Forum

There were no requests to address the Committee.

AFC Preparations for Special Town Meeting

Discuss/Deliberate on STM Topics

Vote recommendations as needed before & during Special Town Meeting

Mr. Arnold noted that there were changes to articles 2, 11, and 13.

Article 2. Ms. Lown noted that Town Manager Jim Malloy had provided the numbers she had requested relating to this article: \$2,250 spent by the Town for arbitration, and \$14,000 for unemployment insurance. She had included these amounts in the updated spreadsheet, but did not include the \$3,001.11 prior year salary expense which has been added to Article 13. She has yet to confirm with Town Accountant Leah Talbot whether FY11 will be adjusted for that expense or if it will be applied to FY12. Either way it comes out of Free Cash. Mr. Behn moved to recommend the Town vote to transfer from Town Building & Grounds Salaries/Wages to Town Building & Grounds Expenses the sum of \$6,783, and further to reduce the overall appropriation of the Town Building & Grounds Salaries/Wages account to \$164,867. The vote to approve the article recommendation is 8 in favor, 1 opposed (Lown), with 9 being present.

Article 13. Mr. Arnold noted that the expected motion now includes an amount for back pay due to the changed circumstances related to the Building and Grounds staffing. Mr. Behn moved to recommend the Town transfer from Free Cash and appropriate the following sums for the purpose of this article: \$2,240 for Personnel Board Expenses, and \$3,002 for Building & Grounds Salaries/Wages. The vote to approve the article recommendation is unanimous, 9 in favor with 9 being present.

Article 11. Mr. Arnold noted that the Library Trustees vote, as well as the Board of Selectmen vote, was still unknown. Ms. Lown added that the Committee could wait until hearing the presentation to Town Meeting. Mr. Behn queried the amount in the motion, since a \$514,000 total had been quoted previously. Ms. Blazejewski noted that \$10,000 for duct cleaning plus 10% for contingency accounted for the difference. No vote taken.

Mr. Arnold noted that the Committee would be in session throughout Town Meeting and re-votes were always possible.

Mr. Arnold mentioned possible dates for the next meeting: Monday, October 24th; Thursday, October 27th, and Thursday, November 3rd. He added that the Committee's budget was due on Monday, November 7th.

Mr. Arnold declared the meeting in recess at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting re-convened at 7:00 p.m. at the start of the Special Town Meeting.

During the early proceedings of the meeting, Mr. Arnold informed the Committee that he has learned that the Library Trustees (5-0) and Selectmen (3-0) had earlier voted in favor of Article 11. Mr. Behn moved that the Committee recommend that \$576,683 be transferred from Free Cash and appropriated for the purpose stated in the Article. The vote was 6 in favor, 0 opposed with 9 present (Allen, Lown, Tepper abstained). The abstaining votes wanted to wait until the Article was presented since all of the Committee's questions had not yet been answered.

After Article 11 had been presented, the Committee asked the questions that had been originally asked at its October 13 meeting. The Trustees and Town Manager believe there will be no asbestos-related issues during the proposed work since earlier ductwork had addressed any asbestos issues. The Trustees and Town Manager also believe that the weight of the replacement roof unit weighs less than and is no larger than the existing unit and believe the current support structure on the roof will be sufficient for the project.

At this point (approximately 9:10 p.m.), Mr. Behn moved that the Committee recommend that \$576,683 be transferred from Free Cash and appropriated for the purpose stated in the Article. The vote was 8 in favor, with 8 present. (Malone absent).

Later on in the discussion of the Article, Mr. Malone returned to the table. At approximately 9:13 p.m., Mr. Behn moved that the Committee recommend that \$576,683 be transferred from Free Cash and appropriated for the purpose stated in the Article. The vote was 9 in favor, with 9 present.

Adjournment at the conclusion of Special Town Meeting

At the conclusion of the Special Town Meeting, Mr. Behn moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m. The vote to adjourn was 9 in favor, with 9 being present.

Document List

Updated motions, prepared by Jim Malloy.